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S.N. 09/930,612
Art Unit: 2137IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A data processing system, comprising:

a first processing resource in the form of a web server coupleable to an open communications network; and

a second processing resource in the form of a back end server coupleable to said first processing resource;

said first processing resource and said second processing resource being configured to establish a communications relationship between them through a non-network connected communications channel, whereby said second processing resource is restricted to implementing an instruction communicated from said first processing resource which only performs a predetermined allowable operation, thereby inhibiting compromise of said second processing resource.

2-101. (Canceled)

102. (Previously Presented) A data processing system as in claim 1, where said first processing resource is configured to transmit said instruction to said second processing resource for said instruction satisfying a predetermined criterion.

103. (Previously Presented) A data processing system as in claim 1, where said first processing resource is configured to transmit said instruction to said second processing resource and where said second processing resource is configured to execute said instruction for said instruction satisfying a predetermined criterion.

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104. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 103, said predetermined criterion comprising said instruction being included in a predefined set of allowable instructions for said second processing resource.

105. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 102, said predetermined criterion comprising said instruction being identified as an allowable instruction for said second processing resource.

106. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 103, said second processing resource being configured to transmit an instruction fail message to said first processing resource responsive to said second processing resource determining said instruction failing to satisfy said predetermined criterion.

107. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 1, said second processing resource comprising a database of executable instructions defining predetermined allowable functionality of said second processing resource.

108. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 1, said instruction comprising a computer program procedure name.

109. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 102, said second processing resource configured to provide a reply message to said first processing resource responsive to an instruction satisfying said predetermined criterion.

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110. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 1, said first processing resource comprising a storage medium configured to store said instruction in a queue prior to transmission to said second processing resource.

111. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 1, said instruction being comprised in a message for transmission to said second processing resource.

112. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 111, said first processing resource comprising a storage medium configured to store said message in a queue prior to transmission to said second processing resource.

113. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 111, wherein said message includes an instruction type and said first processing resource configured to include in said message an action code indicative of the instruction type.

114. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 111, said first processing resource comprising a storage medium configured to store said message prior to transmission to said second processing resource, said message including an instruction type, said first processing resource being further configured to include in said message an action code indicative of the instruction type, and said first processing resource configured to store said message in accordance with a priority assigned to said action code.

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115. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 111, said first processing resource comprising a storage medium configured to store said message prior to transmission to said second processing resource, said first processing resource configured to store messages in accordance with their chronological order.

116. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 114, said first processing resource being configured to select a stored message for transmission to said second processing resource in accordance with a priority determined by said action code of said message.

117. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 1, said first processing resource configured to transmit said instruction or a message including said instruction responsive to receiving a communication comprising sensitive information and to discard said sensitive information from said first processing resource.

118. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 117, said message representing sensitive information derived from said communication.

119. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 117, wherein said sensitive information is discarded in response to transmission of said message comprising sensitive information to said second processing resource.

120-124. (Canceled)

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125. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus, comprising:

a first processing resource in the form of a web server coupleable to an open communications network and to a non-network connected communications channel; said first processing resource being configured to transmit an instruction to a second processing resource in the form of a back end server disposed in a non-open network coupled data processing apparatus responsive to receiving a communication via said communications channel and for said instruction satisfying a predetermined criterion.

126. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 125, further comprising a storage medium to store said instruction in a queue prior to transmission to said second processing resource.

127. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 125, wherein said first processing resource is configured to form a message including said instruction for transmission to said second processing resource.

128. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 127, wherein said message includes an instruction type and wherein said first processing resource is configured to include in said message an action code indicative of an instruction type.

129. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 128, wherein said first processing resource is configured to store messages in accordance with a priority assigned to said action code.

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130. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 127, wherein said first processing resource is configured to store messages in accordance with their chronological order.

131. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 127, said first processing resource being configured to transmit said instruction or message responsive to receiving a communication comprising sensitive information and to remove at least that part of said communication comprising said sensitive information from said first processing resource.

132. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according claim 125, said instruction comprising a computer program procedure name.

133. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 132, said predetermined criterion comprising said instruction or said computer program procedure being included in a predefined set of allowable instructions or computer program procedures for said second processing resource.

134. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 132, said predetermined criterion comprising said instruction or said computer program procedure being identified as an allowable instruction or computer program procedure for said second processing resource.

135. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus, comprising:
a second processing resource in the form of a back end server that is configured to respond to an instruction received through a non-network connected

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communications channel from another processing resource in the form of a web server disposed in another data processing apparatus to execute only instructions satisfying a predetermined criterion.

136. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 135, further comprising a database of executable instructions defining predetermined allowable functionality of said data processing apparatus.

137. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 135, said instruction comprising a computer program procedure name.

138. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 137, said predetermined criterion comprising said instruction or said computer program procedure being included in a predefined set of allowable instructions or computer program procedures for said second processing resource.

139. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 137, said predetermined criterion comprising said instruction or computer program procedure being identified as an allowable instruction or computer program procedure for said second processing resource.

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140. (Previously Presented) A method for operating a processing system including a first processing resource in the form of a web server coupleable to an open communications network and a second processing resource in the form of a back end server, the method comprising:

establishing a communications relationship between said first and second processing resource through a non-network connected communications channel whereby said second processing resource is restricted to implementing an instruction communicated from said first processing resource which only performs a predetermined allowable operation, thereby inhibiting compromise of said second processing resource.

141. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 140, said first processing resource transmitting said instruction to said second processing resource for said instruction satisfying a predetermined criterion.

142. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 140, said first processing resource transmitting said instruction to said second processing resource, and said second processing resource executing said instruction only if said instruction satisfies a predetermined criterion.

143. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 142, said predetermined criterion comprising said instruction being included in a predetermined set of allowable instructions for said second processing resource.

144. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 141, said predetermined criterion comprising said instruction being identified as an allowable instruction by said second processing resource.

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145. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 142, further comprising said second processing resource transmitting an instruction fail message to said first processing resource responsive to said second processing resource determining said instruction failing to satisfy said predetermined criterion.

146. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 140, said second processing resource comprising a database of executable instructions defining predetermined allowable functionality of said second processing resource.

147. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 146, further comprising said second processing resource comparing said instruction with said database of executable instructions for determining whether said instruction is an allowable instruction.

148. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 140, said instruction comprising a computer program procedure name.

149. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 141, further comprising said second processing resource providing a reply message to said first processing resource responsive to said second processing resource determining that an instruction satisfies said predetermined criterion.

150. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 140, further comprising said first processing resource storing said instruction in a queue prior to transmitting said instruction to said second processing resource.

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151. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 140, said first processing resource forming a message comprising said instruction and transmitting said message to said second processing resource.

152. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 151, further comprising said first processing resource storing said message in a queue prior to transmitting said message to said processing resource.

153. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 151, further comprising said first processing resource forming said message to include an action code indicative of an instruction type included in said message.

154. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 153, further comprising said first processing resource storing said message in accordance with a priority assigned to said action code.

155. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 151, further comprising said first processing resource storing said message in accordance with a chronological order.

156. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 153, further comprising said first processing resource transmitting a message to said second processing resource in accordance with a priority determined by said action code of said message.

157. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 151, further comprising said first processing resource transmitting said instruction or message in response to receiving a

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communication comprising sensitive information and discarding said sensitive information from said first processing resource.

158. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 151, further comprising said first processing resource deriving sensitive information from a communication, and including said sensitive information in said message.

159. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 158, further comprising said first processing resource discarding said sensitive information in response to a transmission of said message comprising said sensitive information to said second processing resource.

160. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 158, further comprising said first processing resource discarding said sensitive information within a predetermined time period.

161. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 160, wherein said time period is one of the following: (1) less than 2 minutes from receipt of said communication, (2) less than 1 minute from receipt of said communication or (3) the shortest time possible from receipt of said communication.

162-174. (Canceled)

175. (Previously Presented) A carrier medium comprising computer machine readable instructions, translatable for configuring a data processing apparatus or system to include or establish a communications relationship through a non-network connected communication channel between a first processing resource in the form of a web server coupleable to an open communications network and a second processing resource in the form of a back end server

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whereby said second processing resource is restricted to implementing an instruction communicated from said first processing resource which only performs a predetermined allowable operation, thereby inhibiting compromise of said second processing resource.

176. (Previously Presented) A carrier medium according to claim 175, further translatable for configuring said data processing apparatus or system to transmit said instruction from said first processing resource to said second processing resource for said instruction satisfying a predetermined criterion.

177. (Previously Presented) A carrier medium according to claim 175, further translatable for configuring said data processing apparatus or system to transmit said instruction from said first processing resource to said second processing resource, and said second processing resource executing said instruction only if said instruction satisfies a predetermined criterion.

178. (Previously Presented) A carrier medium according to claim 175, where said carrier medium comprises at least one of the following:

- a solid-state memory;
- a magnetic tape memory medium;
- a magnetic disc; and
- an optical storage medium.

179. (Cancelled)

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180. (Previously Presented) A carrier medium comprising computer or machine readable instructions for configuring a data processing apparatus or system comprising a first processing resource in the form of a web server coupleable to an open communications network and a second processing resource in the form of a back end server to establish a communications relationship between said first and second processing resources through a non-network connected communication channel; and

to transmit an instruction from said first processing resource to said processing resource for said instruction satisfying a predetermined criterion, whereby said second processing resource is restricted to implementing an instruction, communicated from said first processing resource which only performs a predetermined allowable operation, thereby inhibiting compromise of said second processing resource.

181. (Previously Presented) A carrier medium as in claim 180, said second processing resource executing said instruction only if said instruction satisfies said predetermined criterion.

182. (Previously Presented) A carrier medium in accordance with claim 180, said carrier medium comprising at least one of the following:

a solid-state memory;

a magnetic tape memory medium;

a magnetic disc; and

an optical storage medium.

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183. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 1, wherein the system is configured to operate in a command mode for transmitting commands from the second processing resource to the first processing resource.

184. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 117, said first processing resource being configured to discard said sensitive information within a predetermined time period.

185. (Previously Presented) A data processing system according to claim 184, wherein said time period is one of the following: (1) less than two minutes from receipt of said communication or (2) the shortest possible time from receipt of said communication.

186. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 140, further comprising operating the processing system in a command mode for transmitting commands from the second processing resource to the first processing resource.

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